

Georgia's Pre-K Program
Process for Identifying Classes for Possible Closure
(Revised April 8, 2011)

- I. Explanation: Even with the addition of 2,000 slots, the same number of Pre-K classes will not be needed. This is due to the fact that there are now 2 additional slots per classroom.
 - A. 86,000 slots divided by 22 children per classroom = 3,909 Pre-K classrooms for next school year.
 - B. Currently there are 4,215 Pre-K classrooms.
 - C. Therefore, Georgia's Pre-K will face a reduction of **306** classrooms across the state.
 - D. Due to the reductions, BFTS cannot consider any class moves at this time. Those will be considered at the completion of this process.

- II. Commitment of Bright from the Start:
 - A. Child-centered
 - B. Parent friendly
 - C. Transparent
 - D. Equitable
 - E. Receptive to new ideas
 - F. Continue diversity of settings to preserve parent choice
 - G. Returning a class does not increase likelihood of program closure

- III. Georgia's Pre-K will identify classes for possible closure in two tiers. Tier One utilizes data at an individual site level. Tier Two utilizes data at a county level. The number of classes closed in each county as a result of Tier Two will depend on the number of classes identified in Tier One, since the classes closed in the Tier One stage are subtracted from the number determined at the Tier Two stage.
 - A. Tier One – Classes are identified for possible closure based on program choice or other external data. These closings will minimize the overall program impacts. Data include:
 - 1. Voluntary Submission
 - 2. Low Rosters
 - 3. Probation Status
 - 4. Grant Agreement Compliance (includes issues with roster and RECON submissions, audit and tax levy issues, insufficient teacher credentials, and ratio compliance)
 - 5. Child Care Services or Nutrition Compliance
 - B. Tier Two – Classes are identified for possible closure based on county/system/zip code level data that indicate the least impact on program access, program effectiveness, or overall quality. Data include:
 - 1. County level reductions based on the addition of 22 children per Pre-K classroom
 - a. Capacity of current number of Pre-K classrooms for 22 children per classroom
 - b. Current enrollment numbers at the county level
 - c. Current waiting list numbers
 - 2. County level saturation rates
 - 3. County level waiting lists
 - a. Actual numbers of children on the waiting list
 - b. Percentage of enrollment represented by the waiting list
 - c. Zip Code level waiting lists
 - 4. 3rd Grade CRCT Scores (Reading and Math)
 - 5. Free/Reduced Lunch Data
 - 6. County Level Unemployment Rate

- IV. Key Dates
 - A. March 18: Stakeholder Focus Group (Notes posted online March 25th)
 - B. March 25: Voluntary Closure Email Sent (Due April 1)
 - C. April 19-20: Governor's Office/Legislative Branch and Classes Notified